



# NEWS RELEASE



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## NORTH DAKOTA JANUARY 1 SHEEP INVENTORY

FARGO, ND, January 29, 2016 - **All sheep and lamb inventory** in North Dakota on January 1, 2016 totaled 73,000 head, up 9,000 head from last year, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

**Breeding sheep inventory** totaled 53,000 head, up 3,000 from last year. Ewes one year and older totaled 44,000 head, up 2,000 head from 2015. Rams one year and older remained unchanged from last year's 2,000 head. Total replacement lambs was 7,000 head, up 1,000 head from last year.

**Market sheep and lambs** totaled 20,000 head, up 6,000 head from last year. A total of 1,000 head were mature sheep (one year and older) while the remaining 19,000 were under one year. Market lamb weight groups were estimated as follows: 1,000 lambs were under 65 pounds; 5,000 were 65-84 pounds; 8,000 were 85-105 pounds; 5,000 were over 105 pounds.

**The 2015 lamb crop** totaled 55,000 head, unchanged from 2014. The 2015 lambing rate was 131 per 100 ewes one year and older, compared with 134 per 100 ewes in 2014.

**Shorn wool production** during 2015 was at 485,000 pounds, up 25,000 pounds from 2014. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 64,000 head, up 6,000 head from last year. The average price paid for wool sold in 2015 was \$1.28 per pound, compared with \$1.45 in 2014. The total value of wool produced in North Dakota was \$621,000 in 2015.

Access the National publication for this release at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/nass/SheeGoat//2010s/2016/SheeGoat-01-29-2016.pdf>

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